



National Weather Service 1st Quarter Review 2001

February 22, 2000

Action Item
Checklist

Milestones &
Accomplishments

Management
Challenges,
Issues,
Problems

Reports

Compliance

EEO

Diversity

Upcoming

<< >>

Action Items

Review	Status	Action Item
2 nd	Ongoing	Coordinate with NOS about site for Key West WFO
3 rd	Completed	Prepare a report on activities related to the FY 2000 wildfire season
4 th	Completed	Provide new organizational chart for NWS to acting NOAA Undersecretary
4 th	Completed	Provide NWS slide on wildfires to acting NOAA Undersecretary
4 th	Completed	Check availability of WMO statistics for historical records of storms and tornadoes over the years on a global scale
4 th	Completed	Develop 2 pager on total cost of completing distribution of NWRs.

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1st Quarter Milestones

Completed 11 of 11 Milestones (100%)

- ✓ **Extend public weather forecasts from five to seven days**
- ✓ **Award contract for additional source(s) of NWR transmitters**
- ✓ **Issue daily 6-10 Day and Week 2 probabilistic outlooks**
- ✓ **Develop a flood advisory committee in partnership with the Delaware River Basin Commission**
- ✓ **Implement new NWS quantitative precipitation forecast process in the Western U.S.**
- ✓ **Deliver NCEP (NWS) contribution to Weather Research and Forecasting (WRF) model**

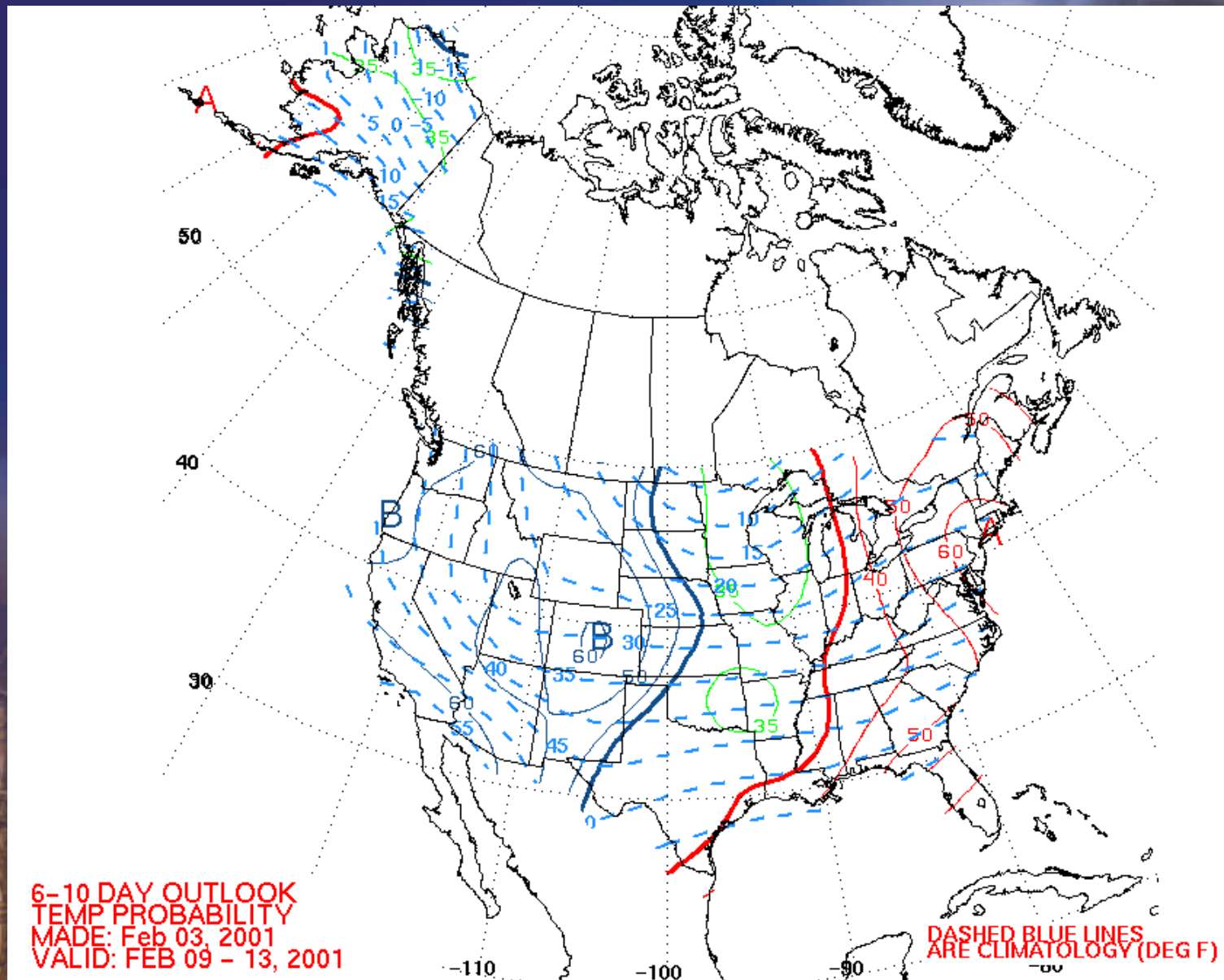
<http://wrf-model.org>



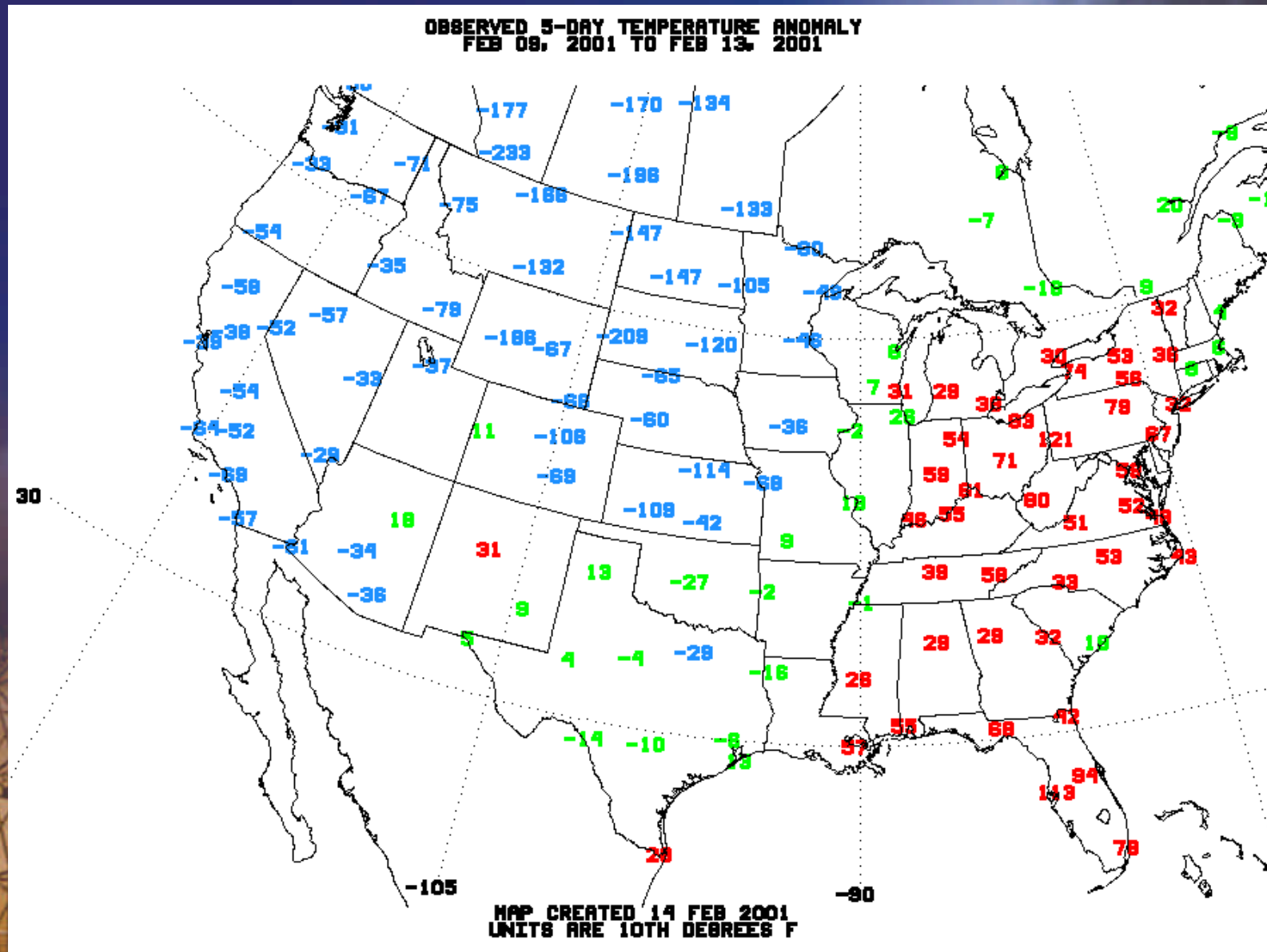
Extend Public Weather Forecasts from Five to Seven Days



6-10 Day Probabilistic Outlook



6-10 Day Probabilistic Outlook Verifies



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1st Quarter Milestones

- ✓ **Conduct training for NWS/NOAA Diversity Change Agents**
- ✓ **Assist in planning and participate in NOAA's Diversity Network Conference**
- ✓ **Complete installation of Phase II of the IBM Supercomputer**
- ✓ **Establish executive level boards for Capital Investment, Operations, Workforce/Human Resources, and Science & Technology**
- ✓ **Begin cost accounting project for NOAA Weather Radio**



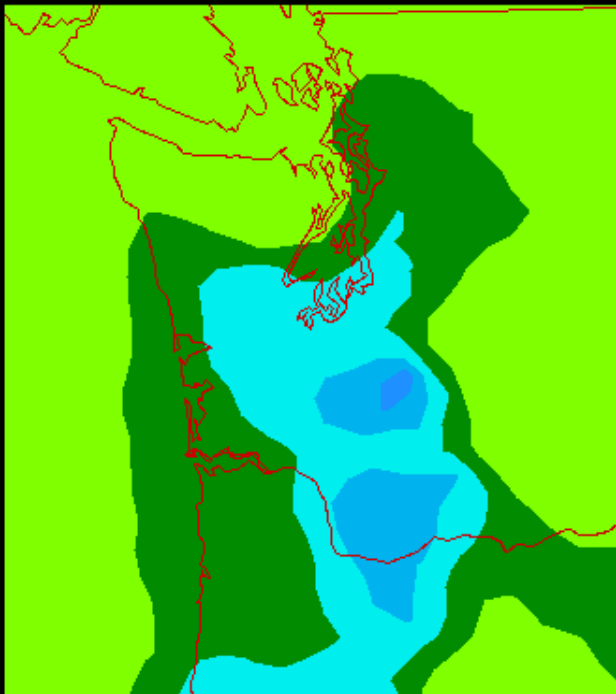
Complete installation of Phase II of the IBM Supercomputer

- 40x Faster than the Cray-90 that was used until Sept. 1999
- 3 Trillion Calculations per Second
- Able to run higher resolution models to improve forecasts
- 1st Qtr, FY 2002: 12km/60 layer Eta model operational

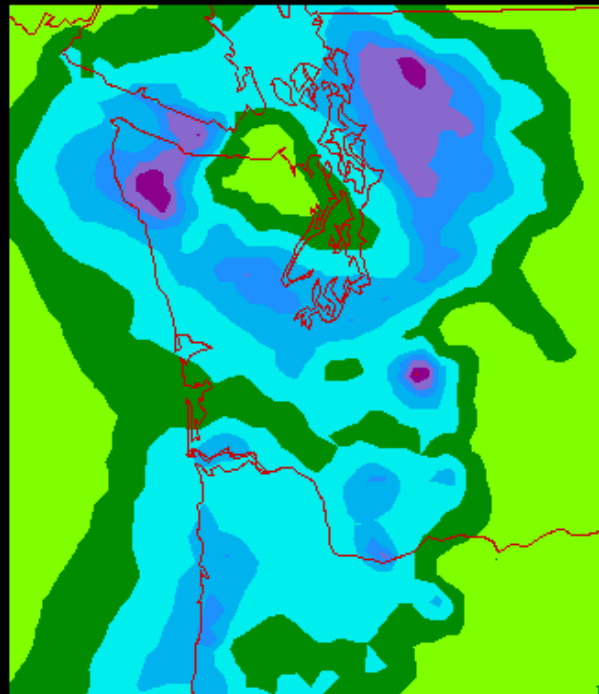


IBM Phase II Improvements in Eta Model

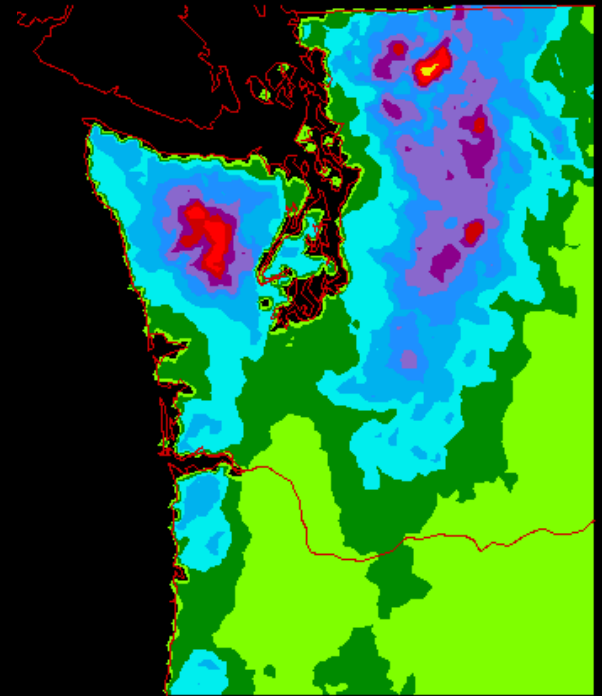
24 Hour Accumulated Precipitation Forecast



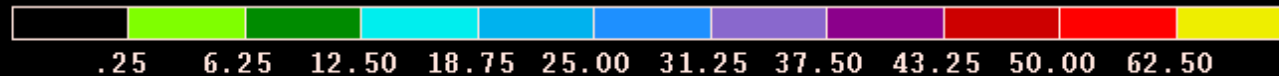
22 km



10 km



Observed



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1st Quarter Accomplishments

Forecasting Accomplishments

- Southern Tornadoes
- Kansas/Nebraska Tornadoes
- Winter Storm in the South
- Heavy Snow in Buffalo
- Northeast Winter Storm



Organizational Accomplishments

- NWS Modernization Removed from GAO High Risk List
- Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service (AHPS) Outreach Video completed

Southern Tornadoes

December 16, 2000

- 21 tornadoes in a 10-hour period
- NOAA Weather Radio praised by Tuscaloosa County Emergency Managers
- Tuscaloosa County, AL
 - 14 minute lead time on F-4 tornado
 - 12 people killed, 75 injured, & hundreds of homes damaged



Kansas/Nebraska Tornadoes

October 30, 2000

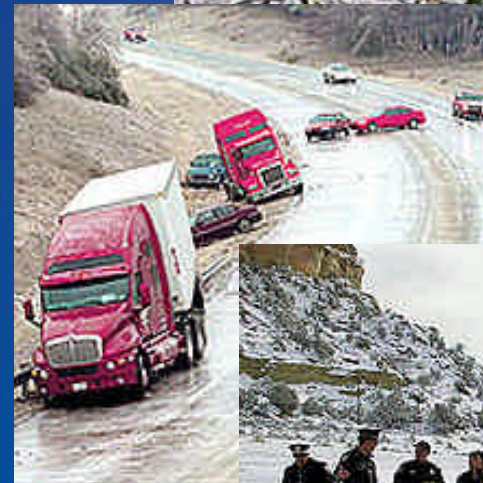
- 15 reported tornadoes
- 200 mile track of storm damage
- Oconto, Nebraska
 - *14 minute lead time on F-2 tornado*
 - *48 buildings damaged*
 - *Early warning credited for lack of injuries*



Winter Storm in the South

December 25-26, 2000

- Texas, Arkansas & Oklahoma
- 12-18 inches of snow in northern panhandle of Texas
- 12 deaths / 700,000 people without power
- Winter Weather Outlook issued up to 5 days in advance
- Ice and Winter storm warnings up to 15 hours in advance



Heavy Snow in Buffalo

November 20, 2000

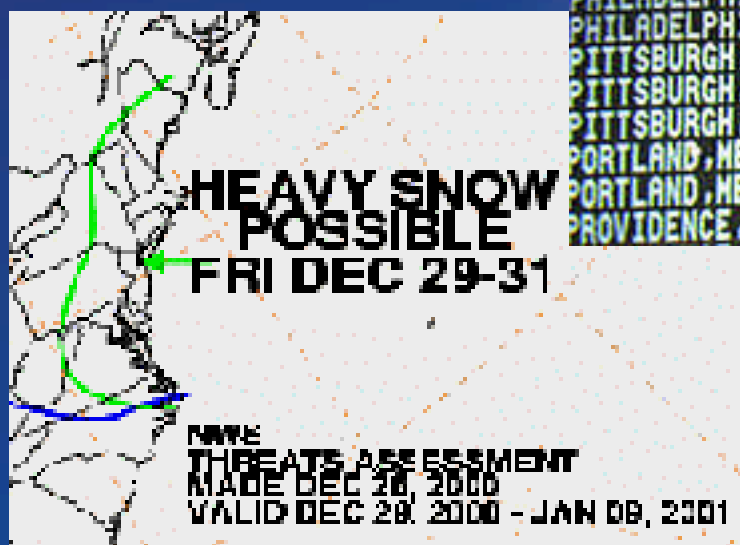
- 25 inches in some areas
- 3rd heaviest snow on record in Buffalo
- 2 to 3 inches of lake effect snow per hour
- State of emergency declared
- Forecasted 4 days in advance
- Issued warning 10 hours in advance



Northeast Winter Storm

December 30, 2000

- Worst snow storm since January 1996 blizzard
- 1 foot of snow in New York City
- Up to 2 feet of snow northeast suburbs
- Closed New York area airports
- Snowfall over-forecasted in Mid-Atlantic states (VA, MD, DE, PA) & New England



ARRIVING FROM	FLT	GATE	SCHED	STATUS
MANCHESTER, NH	3768		12:00P	CANCELLED
MANCHESTER, NH	3968		1:35P	CANCELLED
NORFOLK, VA	3492		9:40A	CANCELLED
ORLANDO, FL	2723	9	9:39A	E.T.A. 10:
ORLANDO, FL	2688	9	12:37P	CANCELLED
PHILADELPHIA, PA	3064		9:38A	CANCELLED
PHILADELPHIA, PA	3885		11:30A	CANCELLED
PITTSBURGH, PA	950	11	9:33A	
PITTSBURGH, PA	1244		10:36A	CANCELLED
PITTSBURGH, PA	1252	8	1:07P	CANCELLED
PORTLAND, ME	3649		12:30P	CANCELLED
PORTLAND, ME	3990		1:35P	CANCELLED
PROVIDENCE, RI	3524		9:59A	CANCELLED



Management Challenges, Issues, Problems

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Upcoming

- **Hiring Freeze**
- **AT&T to MCI Transition**
- **Office Closures**
- **Performance Measures**



Remaining Office Closures

- **Huntsville, AL**
- **Fort Smith, TX**
- **Salem, OR**
- **Evansville, IN**
- **Erie, PA**
- **Williston, NC**
- **Meridian, MS**



NWS Performance Measures

	FY 2000 Actual	Revised FY 2001 Goal
Tornado Warnings		
Lead Time (Min)	10	13
Accuracy (%)	63	68
False Alarm Rate (%)	76	73
Flash Flood Warnings		
Lead Time (Min)	43	45
Accuracy (%)	86	86
Winter Storm Warnings		
Lead Time (Min)	9	13
Accuracy (%)	85	86
Hurricane Landfall Warnings		
Lead Time (Hours)	*	21
Aviation Forecasts (Ceiling/Visibility)		
Accuracy (%)	15	21
False Alarm Rate (%)	53	51
Marine Forecasts (Wind/Wave)		
Accuracy (%)	50	53
Precipitation Forecasts		
Accuracy of 3-Day Forecast (%)	16	22

Congressional, GAO, and IG Reports

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Congressional Reports

- **Cooperative Observer Network**

Reports

GAO Reports

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- **USAID**
- **U.S. Assistance to Micronesia and Marshall Islands**

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OIG Reports

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Upcoming

- **WFO Inspections**
- **NWS Weather Observer Program**
- **National Data Buoy Center**

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Open NWS Environmental / Safety Audit Findings - 1st Quarter FY 2001

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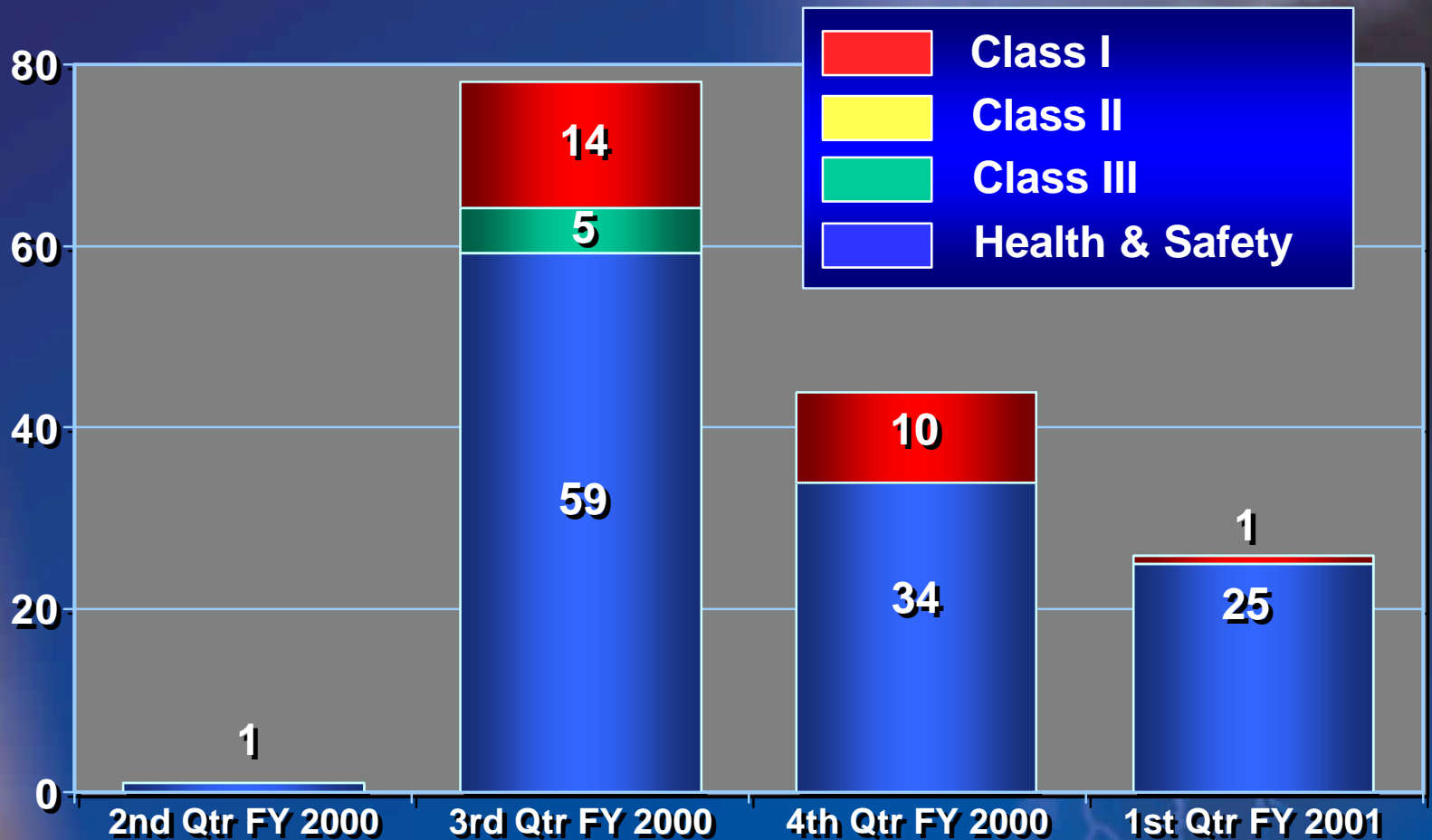
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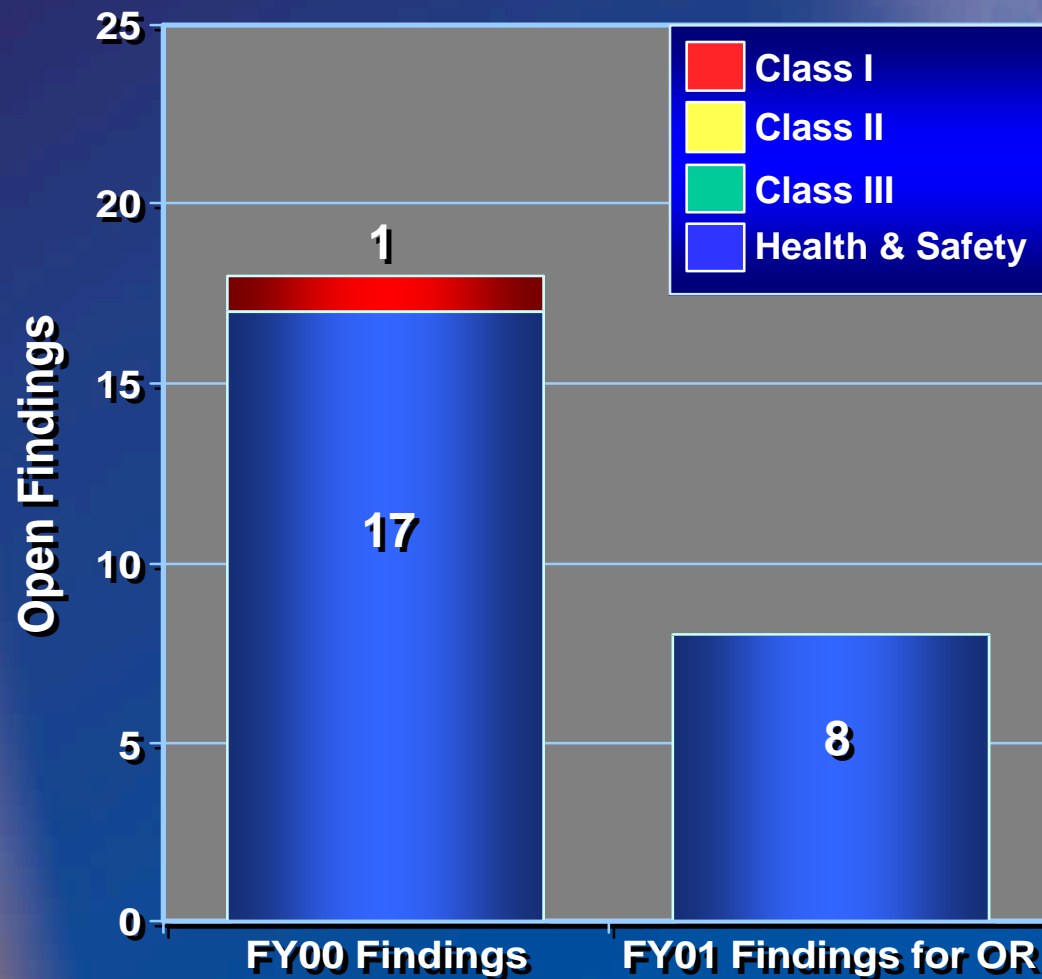
Open Findings



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NWS 1st Quarter FY01 Open Audit Findings



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EEO Accomplishments

- **Established a Position Analysis and Change Team (PACT)**
- **Established a WCM (Warning Coordination Meteorologist) Initiatives Team (WIT)**
- **Alaska Region established program to recruit and train local Alaska natives to be Meteorological Technicians**
- **Regional Offices conducted Native American Awareness Month celebrations**
- **Participated in the “Welfare-to-Work” Program**
- **Converted 3 Student Career Experience Program (SCEP) positions to permanent positions**

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Diversity Accomplishments

- **Received 3 NOAA Best Practices Awards**
- **3 NWS employees chosen to service on DOC Diversity Council**
- **Southern Region launched Building Leaders for a Solid Tomorrow (BLAST) Program**
- **Increased the number of Diversity Change Agents from 60 to 116**
- **Assisted in planning and participated in NOAA's Diversity Network Conference**



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Upcoming Activities (2nd Qtr.)

- **National Severe Weather Workshop**
- **Tornado Season & Spring Climate Outlooks**
- **Update the current NOAA Weather Radio plan to identify high risk areas and prioritize areas lacking coverage**
- **Complete cost study on Central Region relocation**
- **Begin web-based data collection for snow spotters and cooperative observers**
- **Begin centralized collection and distribution of NEXRAD radar data**

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Upcoming Activities (2nd Qtr.)

- **Implement web-based system for fire weather spot forecasts**
- **Complete evaluation of the Southern Region River Forecast Center 24 hours a day, 7 days a week operations**
- **Complete bilateral agreements with Saudi Arabia, Singapore, and Vietnam**
- **Establish an aviation collaborative forecasting effort at Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas WFO**

